

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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2003

SECRET/RYBAT

Routing Form

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Indicate title of person to take action and that of the originator. Place comments there under by numbered paragraphs. Initial in center of page and draw a line across the page and forward. Each recipient is to repeat above procedure until action completed and ready for filing. This cover-sheet must be retained with enclosure.

TO:

FROM:

DATE:

C/PP

Exec

DC/P

C/P

C/PP. — ~~Has~~ we have any emergency plans in case the "killing orgy", referred to in para 4, should actually break out ?? — I am in no position to judge how serious a threat it is, but I understand that such wholesale purges have occurred more than once in other Latin American countries and, considering the extreme state of nervousness in Guat, the threats of Montenegro, the remark by Arbenz in the cabinet meeting as reported by [] etc., a blood bath of considerable scope seems a distinct possibility.

I submit that the only effective counter-action would be airborne intervention by U.S. troops : once the purge is successfully completed, we would find it ten times as tough as now to oust the communists from Guat. Apart from the necessary coordination with the Pentagon, this would presumably require an arrangement with the President of one of the neighboring countries (Somoza or Galvez), calling for US help as soon as the "night of the long knives" has started.

11 June

→ This is one of a number of
 specific suggestions that has been
 made to State's Defense

C/88

for above

Policy
 File